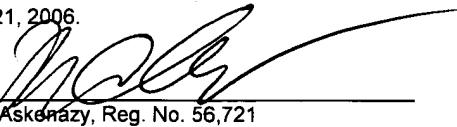


PATENT APPLICATION
MARK AS EXPEDITED

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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on April 21, 2006.


Philip D. Askenazy, Reg. No. 56,721

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/820,911 /
Applicant : Michael E. Littau et al.
Filed : April 8, 2004
Title : Determination of Center of Focus by Parameter Variability Analysis

TC/A.U. : 2877
Examiner : Gordon J. Stock, Jr.
Confirm. No. : 8761
Docket No. : 31162-11-US

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER
37 C.F.R. § 1.116(a)
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Examining Group 2877

Attention: Mail Stop AF

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 22, 2005, please reconsider the above-identified application.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.